

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 16 and 17, and ADD claim 18 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A support method for transition of service providers between portable telephone companies performed by a support sever, comprising:

receiving a request for transition from a before-transition portable telephone company to an after-transition portable telephone company while keeping a telephone number, by a transition request reception unit of the support server, from a customer terminal;

providing information about an after-transition service equivalent to a service contracted before transition to the customer terminal, by an after-transition service information presentation unit of the support server, the information being based on contents of the service contracted before the transition, the contents being recovered using the telephone number included in the request, from a customer file that stores service-contents information-of services correlated with telephone numbers, in the support server, and information on contents of the services provided by a service provider that the after-transition portable telephone companies-company can use, registered in a service map file stored in the support server; and

registering contents of an after-transition service correlated with the telephone number in the customer file, after receiving from the customer terminal by a service contract unit of the support server, a service selection notifying the after-transition service selected based on the information about the after-transition service equivalent of the service before transition.

2-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) The support method for transition of service providers between portable telephone companies performed by a support service according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining and notifying whether a customer qualifies for a service transition to the

customer terminal, by a customer determination unit of the support server, wherein the customer qualifies when customer information recovered from the customer file using the telephone number contained in the request for transition satisfies predetermined criteria.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing a support program for transition of service providers between portable telephone companies, the support program causing a computer execute a method comprising:

receiving a request for transition from a before-transition portable telephone company to an after-transition portable telephone company while keeping a telephone number, from a customer terminal;

providing information about an after-transition service equivalent to a service contracted before transition to the customer terminal, the information being based on contents of the service contracted before the transition recovered using the telephone number including included in the request, from a customer file storing service-contents information of services correlated with telephone numbers, and information on contents of the services provided by a service provider that the after-transition portable telephone companies company can use, registered in a service map-fill file; and

registering contents of an after-transition service correlated with the telephone number in the customer file, after receiving from the customer terminal a service selection notifying the after-transition service selected based on the information about the after-transition service equivalent of the service before transition.

18. (New) A method performed by a support server connected to a customer terminal and portable phone service providers, for changing a provider of portable telephone service, comprising:

responding to a request to change a service provided by a first provider to a replacement service provided by a second provider, by generating and sending to a customer terminal that sent the request including a telephone number, information on services of the second provider that correspond to the service provided by the first provider, using a service description of the service received from the first provider, stored in the support server correlated with the telephone number, and information on available services of the second provider, stored in the support server; and

storing a replacement service description correlated with the telephone number, after receiving the replacement service description, from the customer terminal, the replacement

Serial No. 10/823,605

service description being based on the information on the services of the second provider that correspond to the service provided by the first provider.